



Plain Speaking

Central Plains Library System

Educate Connect Inspire

Volume 1, Issue 7

December/January 2016

Turn Yourself Into a Talent Scout

One sure way to host successful programming in your library is to identify the talents and abilities of those individuals in your community. Everyone has hobbies, interests, and skills, and many are experienced enough to teach others. Almost always, these people are happy to conduct a FREE library program. It gives them confidence, a feeling of recognition, and it builds new friendships and partners.

The more people you meet, the more connections you will make and the more program prospects you will find. Be open, friendly, and assertive. Let people know that your goal is to make your library a “hub” of activity and learning in your community. Ask yourself these questions:

- Is there a new business in town that could use some exposure?
- Is there a doctor or specialist at the local hospital who could present a health program of interest?
- How about hosting a hair make-over with a hairdresser in town?
- Is there a boutique that would feature their clothing in a small fashion show?
- Is there a local artist or photographer who could teach a class or two?
- What about piano or voice teachers who can perform and, in return, attract new pupils?
- Is there someone who makes jewelry?
- Perhaps you can find a gardening enthusiast who can share tips?
- What about forming a parenting group of young mothers (& fathers) who could meet monthly and your children’s librarian could perform a preschool storytime/craft program at the same time?
- Is there a chef from a local restaurant who could provide a food demo and tasting?
- Is there a square dancing or folk dancing club that could perform and teach a few steps?

Make your library a fun and interesting place to visit. The more unusual programs you present, the more interest you will develop. Be sure to create an attractive flyer and advertise, Advertise, ADVERTISE!! Don’t forget to prepare book and material displays that coordinate with the themes of your programs. Remember: A Displayed Book is a Circulated Book!

Keep records of your programs and attendance. Your statistics will speak loudly to those who help provide your funding.

Information from 2015 ARSL Conference session by Susie Randleman, Director, Art Circle Public Library, Crossville, TN.

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2727 West 2nd Street #233
Hastings, NE 68901

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Kearney, NE 68847

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402-705-1409
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Virtual Reality

Virtual reality has been a hot topic for a long while, but only recently has the technology reached levels of price and accessibility that have made it worth considering for non-gigantic libraries. The phrase “virtual reality” brings to mind clunky glasses strapped to the face and, make no mistake, fully wearable hardware is still a huge part of the virtual reality landscape. Microsoft’s upcoming [HoloLens](#) and Oculus Rift’s [new headset](#) are good examples of fully-prefabricated VR devices that you affix to your head. They’re also good examples of pretty expensive technology, outside the budget of libraries which are not already committed to large-scale VR projects. But there are affordable alternatives for those who are interested in trying out VR without breaking the bank.



It doesn’t get much more economical than Google’s [Cardboard project](#). Google offers downloadable instructions which will allow you to make your own VR viewer using magnets, Velcro, and cardboard from an old cereal or pizza box. If you’re not inclined to DIY, you can also purchase pre-assembled cardboard or plastic viewers from a vendor. The New York Times [sent out free Cardboard kits](#) to their subscribers with the November 8, 2015, Sunday edition. Once you’ve built or bought your Cardboard set, you’ll insert a fairly new and large smartphone into the viewer.

Other manufacturers offer similar budget-friendly tech. Oculus is offering a [\\$99 headset](#) which works with 2015 Samsung phones. Even [View-Master](#) has revamped their product into a \$30 virtual reality device. Don’t worry, they still use reels. There are plenty of other companies which provide low-cost VR viewers. Potential buyers should remember, however, that many of these devices work in tandem with smartphones, so be sure to budget for both the \$30 Google Cardboard set and the \$600 cell phone.

So what can you do with this technology? As you might expect, games are a natural fit for virtual reality. The popular game Minecraft is [coming](#) for the Oculus Rift and Google’s Play Store has an entire section devoted to [VR-friendly apps](#) for Cardboard. But the possibilities extend beyond gaming. The recent Democratic debate on CNN featured a virtual reality broadcast that was apparently [rather quirky](#). And some [hotel chains](#) are experimenting with VR devices that allow viewers to travel to far-flung locations. Imagine a program on weather that would allow patrons to step *into* a hurricane through a VR viewer. Or a program on Italian cooking that ends with a VR tour of Milan. With costs dropping, it’s becoming affordable to experiment, so you might consider finding a place for virtual reality at your library.

~by Craig Lefteroff, NLC Technology Innovation Librarian

Week of Weeding



The Central Plains Library System is declaring February 1 – 6, 2016, a “Week of Weeding”!

We want to encourage everyone to participate by agreeing to weed a section of their library that they have been avoiding. You know what it is—that corner, that shelf, that genre of books that you have put off weeding for a while. Now’s the time! **ALL** Libraries in CPLS are eligible to participate!

How to Participate:

1. Call the Hastings CPLS Office (800-569-4961 or 402-462-1975) or send Sharon or Denise an email at sharonosenga@gmail.com or denise.cpls@gmail.com to let us know you want to participate.
2. If you need extra encouragement or help deciding what to weed, let Sharon or Denise know. We will be glad to give advice and to lend a helping hand.
3. After you finish your weeding project, fill out the form below.
4. Those who submit their forms to the Hastings CPLS Office by February 12th will be entered into a drawing for a Kindle Fire eReader! The winning library will be selected in a random drawing on Monday, February 15, 2016.



Week of Weeding Participation Form

Library _____

Section Weeded _____

How many books were weeded? (approximately) _____

Best (or worst) thing that was weeded out? _____

We’d love to see some “before and after” photos of your project! You can email digital pictures or submit printed photos with this participation form. (Pictures are not required and will not affect your library’s chance to win the eReader.)

Return form to: Central Plains Library System
2727 West 2nd Street #233
Hastings, NE 68901

CPLS News

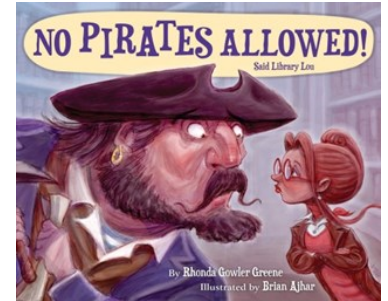
Silver Lake Mustangs

The students at **Silver Lake High School** had a lot of fun during Homecoming Week. One activity was to film a Lip Dub to the song "Shake It Off." **Every student in the school** participated. Part of it was filmed in the school library. You can see the video at: <https://youtu.be/01VAtsrrOuQ>.



Author Visit

We had an author visit at the **Hastings Public Library**. Rhonda Gowler Greene, the author of **No Pirates Allowed...Said Library Lou**, came to talk to all the 1st and 2nd graders from the **Hastings Public Schools**. She did a great job telling the kids how she got to be an author and how books are made. Then she read her book to the kids.



~Cecile Callahan,

Hawthorne Elementary School, Hastings

Paraprofessional of the Year

Kim Olson of Minden's **Jensen Memorial Library** has been named the Nebraska Library Association (NLA) Paraprofessional of the Year for 2015.

In her nomination letter, Library Director Janene Hill noted Olson's enthusiasm and energy for her job. "Kim continuously comes up with new ideas and takes on new ventures to expand and improve [the library's] children's programs. I am extremely lucky to have her on my staff and the Minden community is blessed to have her leading library programs for children."

Bonus December Display Idea

Create a book display by covering various sizes of gift boxes in wrapping paper. Label each gift with a letter and create a gift tag with a clue about which popular children's character the gift is for. For example: "A. To a radiant friend." Next to the boxes set out a selection of popular children's books.

Prepare a list of the names of characters from the books on display. Children (with help from a parent) write the correct letter next to the character's name on the list. Give a small prize to anyone who makes the correct matches.



(Answer: Wilbur from **Charlotte's Web** by E.B. White)

Contributed by Jacqueline Witter-Easley, Carthage College, Kenosha, WI.



Central Plains Library System

Summer Reading Workshops

Same Great Workshop—2 Great Dates



Date: January 29, 2016

Grand Island Public Library

211 N Washington St.

Grand Island, NE 68801-5855

(Registrations due Jan. 22nd)

Registration Fee

\$20.00

(Includes your lunch)

Date: March 21, 2016

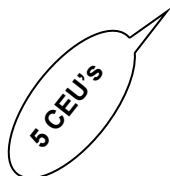
Mid Plains Community College

601 West State Farm Road

North Platte, NE 69101

(Registrations due March 14th)

AGENDA



9:30 -10:30 am Extension Educator

10:30 -11:45 am Book reviews by Sally Snyder, NLC

11:45—Noon Sharing Time

LUNCH—1 Hour

1:00 - 1:30 pm Games with Denise and Sharon

1:30 - 3:30 pm Crafts with Jody Crocker

In case of inclement weather please contact the System office to see if the workshop has been rescheduled (1-800-569-4961 or 308-708-1688)



SUMMER READING REGISTRATION —\$20.00

January 29, Grand Island

Circle one

March 21, North Platte

Your Name: _____

Library: _____

E-mail: _____

Please send registration and checks to: Central Plains Library System
2727 West 2nd Street, Suite # 233
Hastings, NE 68901

This activity is supported in part with funding from the State of Nebraska and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act as administrated by the Nebraska Library Commission.



Lunch Bunch

This is a great opportunity for public librarians and school librarians to work together.

Start a read-your-own-book club. Booktalk several titles and then allow each student to pick the title he or she wants to read. Once a month, invite students to eat lunch with you in the library and discuss the books they read. During the first meeting, model how to discuss the books. Discussion guidelines are helpful. You can use the ones on this webpage <http://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/discguide.asp> or you can come up with your own as a group.

Reading Group Choices

Each year, the CPLS Office receives a book titled ***Reading Group Choices: Selections for Lively Discussions***. Each yearly edition includes approximately 75 book recommendations with 10-15 "Conversation Starters." The 2016 edition features the results of their 2015 Favorite Books Contest. Reading Groups enter the contest online at <http://ReadingGroupChoices.com>. Here are the top titles Book Club members read and enjoyed during 2014:

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline
All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd
The Light Between Oceans by M. L. Stedman
Me Before You by Jojo Moyes
Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand
The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt
The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin
The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown
Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn
The Paris Architect by Charles Belfoure



Encourage your Reading Group to go online between January 1 and April 1, 2016 to enter the 2016 Favorite Books Contest.



Library & Information Services

Online Course Offerings

Spring 2016

January 11, 2016 – May 5, 2016

LIBR 2150 Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies

Patty Birch, Instructor

This course will provide students with an understanding of managing collections in libraries and information agencies, including:

- Basics of Collection Management (terminology, models)
- 21st Century Literacies
- Selection (All resources, for all age levels)
- Acquisition
- Deselection/Weeding
- Intellectual Freedom
- Copyright

Suggested prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services

For information regarding course content, contact the instructor at

pbirch@cccneb.edu

LIBR 2210 Cataloging and Classification

Ruth Carlock, Instructor

This course will include theories, concepts and activities for cataloging and classifying materials in the 21st Century. It includes the following topics:

- The bibliographic record
- Sears and Library of Congress subject headings
- Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems
- The MARC record
- Resource Description and Access Instructions

Suggested prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services

For information regarding this course, contact the instructor at

rcarlock@cccneb.edu

For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact: Dee Johnson

djohnson@cccneb.edu, 402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780 ext. 1418

2016 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program

The Nebraska Library Commission will make up to \$25,000 available to **accredited Nebraska public libraries** for internships through the 2016 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program.

Similar to internship grant funding provided in 2011 to 2014 by the IMLS Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, this internship program works to introduce high school and college students to the varied and exciting work of Nebraska libraries. The internships are intended to function as a recruitment tool in helping the student to view the library as a viable career opportunity while providing the public library with the finances (up to \$1,000 per library or branch) to provide stipends to the student(s). In the past student interns have helped the libraries expand programs, complete projects, improve websites, and expand social media use, while bringing in fresh ideas to the library. Grant applications will be accepted electronically starting October 23, 2015. **All applications must be received no later than 5:00 PM Central Time, December 17, 2015.** Details about the 2016 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program may be found at <http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.nebraska.gov/internships.asp>. Questions may be directed to: JoAnn McManus, Grants Program Manager, at joann.mcmanus@nebraska.gov or call her at 402-471-4870 or 800-307-2665.

Additional Helpful Information about Internships in General

Although the 2016 Nebraska Librarian Internship Grant Program has some minor differences from the 2014 Internship Grant Program, good information about internships in general can be learned by viewing the recording of the May 7, 2014 **NCompass Live** session: The Internship: A Win-Win Situation. <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/scripts/calendar/eventshow.asp?ProgID=13199>

To help you develop a timeline and list of possible intern activities for your proposed internship, you are encouraged to download the example [Proposed Timeline and Schedule of Internship Activities](#).

[The Employer Guidebook to Developing a Successful Internship Program](#), as found on the Nebraska Department of Economic Development's website, provides tips on creating an engaging internship for students as well as an effective program for the business. This Guidebook also includes sample job descriptions and letters to help you get started.

This project is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.



Cutting Machines

These handy machines cut out letters and shapes from paper, felt, cloth, thin cardboard, magnetic sheets, and foam. CPLS owns two Ellison machines—one Original and a Prestige Space Saver—plus one Mark IV Accu-Cut Machine, and dies (including a 2" alphabet/numbers and a 4" alphabet/numbers). System members may check the desired machine and/or dies out for a month at a time. See the reservation schedule online at: <http://libraries.ne.gov/cpls/die-shapes/>. Call the Hastings CPLS office to reserve this equipment for your library.

Cover One Book Repair Service!

The System has purchased a binding repair machine that fixes a variety of types and sizes of books. This machine easily binds up to a 2 ½" thick book and it has a sliding wall to hold smaller books in place. It will also work with legal size and well as regular 8 ½ x 11" size items. Repaired books will be ready to use in just 20 minutes! Go to <http://www.coverone.net> and click on the link for Book Repair Demo on the left-hand side of the page to see it in action.

This machine is perfect to repair books with glued bindings that have "popped" and split into several big chunks, paperbacks that have come out of their covers, and books where individual pages are coming loose.



Mail or bring your books to the Hastings System Office.

We will repair them for \$1 per book plus actual return postage.

Disc Cleaning and Repair

The System Office has the ECO AUTO-SMART Fully Automatic Disc Repair System. It is not just a buffer, but a full-service machine, to both clean and repair your valuable discs. Save those discs that won't play! As long as they are not cracked, we can fix them.

From July 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2016, each CPLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings.



- If you have more than 10 discs that need fixing, you may send them to us and we will repair them and send them back with an invoice for 50 cents per disc plus return postage.
- If you come to the CPLS Office in Hastings and pick up the repaired discs, the charge is 35 cents per disc. A similar service at a retail video outlet costs more than \$5.00 per disc!

Audiobook Collection

CPLS owns over **650 circulating audiobook titles**. System member libraries may borrow audiobooks (CD, MP3, and Playaway formats) for a loan period of 90 days.

New titles include:



After the Storm by Castillo, Linda

Among the Ten Thousand Things by Pierpont, Julia

Avenue of Spies by Kershaw, Alex

Badlands by Box, C. J.

Blossom Street Brides by Macomber, Debbie

Blue Prints by Delinsky, Barbara

Book of Speculation by Swyler, Erika

Brown-Eyed Girl by Kleypas, Lisa

Brush Back by Paretsky, Sara

Cartel by Winslow, Don

Crooked Heart by Evans, Lissa

Dashing Through the Snow by Macomber, Debbie

Did You Ever Have a Family by Clegg, Bill

Dietland by Walker, Sarai

Eve by Young, William Paul

Ever After by Deveraux, Jude

Friction by Brown, Sandra

Hunter Killers by Hampton, Dan

Hush Hush by Lippman, Laura

Ice Limit by Preston, Douglas

If I Could Turn Back Time by Harbison, Beth

Kitchens of the Great Midwest by Stradal, J. Ryan

Little Paris Bookshop by George, Nina

Luckiest Girl Alive by Knoll, Jessica

Marriage of Opposites by Hoffman, Alice

Mislaid by Zink, Nell

Naked Eye by Johansen, Iris

Cont'd on Page 11

New titles continued...

Naked Greed by Woods, Stuart

Nature of the Beast by Penny, Louise

Night Sister by McMahon, Jennifer

Other Daughter by Willig, Lauren

Paradise Sky by Lansdale, Joe R.

Perfect Touch by Lowell, Elizabeth

Pirate Hunters by Kurson, Robert

President's Shadow by Meltzer, Brad

Pretending to Dance by Chamberlain, Diane

Rodeo Ranch by Brand, Max

Rumor by Hilderbrand, Elin

Scarlet Gospels by Barker, Clive

See Me by Sparks, Nicholas

Sevneves by Stephenson, Neal

Silver Linings by Macomber, Debbie

Summer Secrets by Green, Jane

Twice in a Lifetime by Garlock, Dorothy

Voices in the Ocean: A Journey Into the Wild and Haunting World of Dolphins by Casey, Susan

Water Knife by Bacigalupi, Paola

View the list of titles
on our website under
Services
and then call or email
the System office
to borrow or reserve
titles.

Eating Books

Pair a small snack with the perfect book to make a memory children will always connect with that story. For example, read ***If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*** and pass out small cookies (even better if you also have some milk on hand!).



Some other book/snack suggestions include goldfish crackers with ***Swimmy*** or ***Not Norman: A Goldfish Story***, blueberries and strawberries with ***Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes***, and apples with ***The Giving Tree***.



"Tips from the Trenches," ***Library Sparks***, December 2015, p.4.

Strategic Planning Done Right: Getting to the Heart of Your Community

Where: Elwood Public Library

306 Calvert, Elwood, NE 68937



When: Thursday, December 3, 2015

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Is your library due for accreditation in 2016? Would you like to plan ahead and attain a higher level of accreditation? Would you like for your strategic planning process to go more smoothly next time?

If you said yes to any of these questions, this is the **FREE** workshop for you. Plan now to spend the afternoon with Richard Miller to make your next Strategic Plan the best one ever! Earn 3 CE credits.

To register, call (800) 569-4961 or email the Hastings office at cplsasst@gmail.com

CPLS Has Scholarship Money Available

Up to \$100.00 per event for registration, mileage, meal, etc.

Only one scholarship per person per year.

Each Library Agency shall be limited to two scholarships per year.

Name _____

Library _____

Event _____

Date of event _____

Scholarship requested for _____ (meal, room, etc.)

Amount requested _____

Other information: _____



Send your request to: Central Plains Library System
2727 W. 2nd Street # 233
Hastings, NE 68901

Central Plains Library System Board Meeting

October 26, 2015 4:00 pm

Phone Conference

PRESENT: Dixie Codner, Jody Crocker, Judy Hagan, Kristi Hagstrom Pat Hughes, Tim Johnson, Rochelle Kruger, Shawna Lindner, Debra Moninger, Sky Seery

ABSENT: Robyn Johnston, Kathy Thomsen

ALSO PRESENT: Denise Harders (CPLS Director), Sharon Osenga, (CPLS Director), Richard Miller (NLC Rep)

Agenda

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Jody Crocker called the meeting to order on 10.26.15 at 4:01 pm. Roll call followed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Judy Hagan moved to accept the July 24, 2015 minutes, Debra Moninger seconded.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Looking good budget wise. Pat Hughes made a motion to approve the financial report, Dixie Codner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Note of thanks from Joyce Christen and Julia Van Meter. Thank you notes from CPLS scholarship recipients are rolling in. CCC Library students, Deanna Brashers and Johnna Burr sent a thank you note for a class interview they conducted with Denise. Also received a note from the Clay Center library board, who are disappointed with the new disk repair policy. They used our service when it was RVLS. They are asking for reconsideration.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Denise: Conference season, Denise has visited with 3 library boards, 12 library visits, a city council meeting, 2 NCompass Live, presented at the Youth Services Retreat, had a session on Ditching Dewey. Gary Riggs did the RVLS, CPLS compilation, it's a difficult process. Attended ARSL Conference and NLA Conference. Will send out a special edition of the CPLS newsletter highlighting some of the sessions at these conferences. The Maker Space area at NLA was a huge success! Look for the Mini-Maker Space giveaway in November.

Sharon: 85% of time on the road. Worked on eRate, strategic planning, collection development, met new directors, saw new libraries, etc. Visited Bassett, Ainsworth, Stuart School, Callaway, Loop City, Holdrege Elementary, Arnold, Gothenburg Elementary & High School, Horizon Middle School, Taylor, Rock County Schools, Valentine. Attended Youth Services Retreat, MPLA and NLA Conference.

Denise and Sharon have both registered for PLA 2016 to be held in Denver.

OLD BUSINESS:

Summer Reading – Update: January in Grand Island, March in North Platte. Denise was contacted by Jackie, from one of the Northeastern counties Extension offices. They have

created curriculum for their service area and want to extend that to libraries for summer reading. They ask for 30 minutes of the day. Will visit with them more.

Personnel Duties: Question regarding QuickBooks. Sky asked that the executive committee examine the personnel duties. Committee members approved and the executive committee will report in January.

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item:

Election of Officers: The current officers serving can run for another term if they would like. Debra Moninger made a motion to keep current officers for another term (year). Tim Johnson seconded. The motion carried. Officers will stand, Jody Crocker as President, Judy Hagan as Vice-President, Sky Seery as Secretary.

Policies:

Disk Cleaning: Sharon will send the invoices by email to Kay to avoid double postage cost. Judy Hagan made a motion amending the policy so that the invoice goes with the item, then Sharon will add it to Quickbooks when she is in the Hastings office. Pat Hughes seconded. The motion carried.

Scholarships: Updated to CPLS, each library are limited to two per year. Kristi Hagstrom made a motion to accept the CPLS Scholarship Policy. Debra Moninger seconded. Motion carried.

Book Repair: The book repair policy will have the same changes as the disk cleaning policy. Judy made a motion, Shawna seconded. Motion carried.

Committees: Board members are comfortable with the CPLS directors overseeing the scholarships. Shawna Lindner made a motion to allow directors to select scholarship recipients, therefore there is no need for a scholarship committee. Pat Hughes seconded. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

NLC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Grants from NLC – Youth Grants for Excellence (were due 10.2.15) & Library Improvement Grants (available 12.4.15, due 1.28.16), 2016 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program (12.17.15). As always, check out the upcoming NCompass Live Programs (good stuff, good stuff). E-rate Workshops are in the works. Christa Burns will hold these around the state. Visit the NLC website for more information.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Will be in January – an email will be sent out regarding available dates.

ADJOURNMENT: Jody Crocker adjourned the meeting at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sky E. Seery

2015 Nebraska Book Award Winners

Anthology

The Wheeling Years: A Poet's Field Book by Ted Kooser. University of Nebraska Press.

Cover/Design/Illustration

As All My Fathers Were: A Novel by James A. Misko. Cover and design by Jonathan Friedman. Northwest Ventures Press.

Cover/Design/Illustration Honor

Intimates and Fools by Laura Madeline Wiseman. Art by Sally Deskins. Internal layout and design by Adam Wagler. Les Femmes Folles Books.

Fiction

Last Night at the Blue Angel by Rebecca Rotert. William Morrow.



Fiction: Short Story

In Reach by Pamela Carter Joern. University of Nebraska Press.

Non-Fiction: Investigative Journalism

The Chain: Farm, Factory, and the Fate of Our Food by Ted Genoways. Harper.

Non-Fiction: Memoir

Leaving the Pink House: A Memoir by Ladette Randolph. University of Iowa Press.

Non-Fiction: Nebraska as Place

This Place, These People: Life and Shadow on the Great Plains by David Stark and Nancy Warner. Columbia University Press.

Non-Fiction: Nebraska History

Nebraska POW Camps: A History of World War II Prisoners in the Heartland by Melissa Amateis March. The History Press.

Non-Fiction: Nebraska Spirit

Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II by James J. Kimble. University of Nebraska Press.

Non-Fiction: Reference

History of Nebraska by Ronald C. Naugle, John J. Montag, and James C. Olson. University of Nebraska Press.

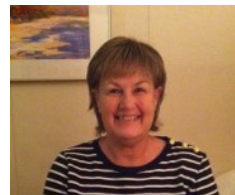
Poetry

Morning: Last Poems by Don Welch. pigeonpress.

Poetry Honor

Always the Detail by Barbara Schmitz. Stephen F. Austin State University Press.

Reflecting on 25 years...



by Sharon Osenga

November marked my twenty-fifth anniversary with the Regional Library Systems and I thought it would be a good time to reflect on the changes we have seen during that time. Three areas stand out: **staff training, technology and collection development.**



Staff Training: When I started at Meridian Library System, the **Public Librarian Certification and Public Library Accreditation Programs** were only a couple of years old. The first group of public librarians was just finishing up the four Basic Skills classes. These two programs required that we do more training for library staff members. The systems stepped in and began to have regular workshops each year. Our best attended was (and still is!) the **Summer Reading Program Workshop**. The Can-Do-It Workshops in January were also quite popular. These workshops could be on any topic that we felt would help librarians become better

equipped to meet the needs of their communities.

In 1991, the Nebraska Library Commission began to give continuing education credits for learning via "audio-visual." Streaming courses were still many years in the future. Board certification came in early in the 1990's, which meant continuing education workshops for trustees. When I look back on workshop offerings over the years, I really don't see much change. The basics of librarianship are still the same. It's just the vehicles that deliver the training that are different.

One of the biggest training areas that the Regional Library Systems addressed was in the area of Leadership. In 2001, we sponsored the first **Nebraska Library Leadership Institute** of 32 and every two years afterwards until 2013. We have seen great results from many of the over 200 total graduates!

Technology: Computers and the Internet were in their infancy in libraries in 1990. At that time, email was done via the state CMS system. Your emails were printed in long pages on a dot matrix printer and you cut them up into individual emails. The **World Wide Web** as the **Internet** was then called was just beginning. Speeds were too slow to support any visual files; everything was text. Colleges and schools were at the forefront of automating. Meridian Library System had a demonstration computer project for public libraries that started in 1991. I hauled around two desktop computers to demonstrate how useful they could be to libraries. The Regional Library Systems stepped in to help libraries begin to incorporate technology. We wrote and received our first cooperative automation grant in 1991. Forty-one public libraries automated the first year. These grants continued for a number of years until most public libraries had at least one computer. At that point, the Gates Foundation began their library donation programs. This really cemented the use of computers in public libraries.

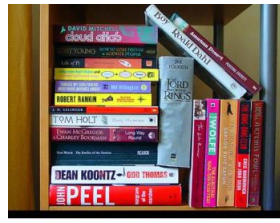


In 1991, we discussed whether books on cassette tapes had a place in the library. Now we want more items available from libraries through streaming.

We've gone from large floppy discs to storing everything on the Cloud.

As the old advertisement goes, "we've come a long way baby!"

Collection Development: I have to say that when I first started visiting libraries in 1991, their collections were not good. Most needed a **good weeding**. Those of you who know me well, know that this is one of my passions. A weeded collection showcases the great materials you own. I guaranteed boards and school administrators that they would see an increase in circulation when a collection was weeded. This guarantee has not yet failed me! With the increase in online databases and schools providing laptops or tablets to students in the last couple of years, we are currently seeing a decrease in the non-fiction collections in all types of libraries, but particularly in schools. Will the printed book disappear? It will be interesting to watch what happens in the next decade.



These are just a few areas where I have seen great change over the years. They have gone by in a flash for me. It seems like yesterday when I made my first visit to a library – it was St. Paul Public Library. My thanks to all of you, who have made me welcome, allowed me to help and supported the Systems. I love this job and have hopefully made a small contribution to the improvement of library services in Nebraska.



Fruit Salad Song

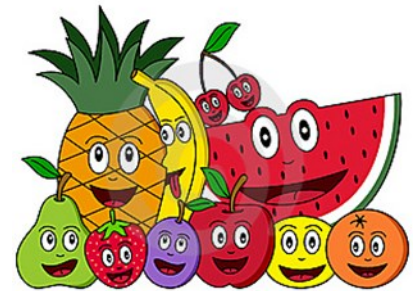
(From Anna Haase Krueger. To the tune of "Frere Jacques.")

Watermelon, watermelon
(Trace big watermelon shape with both arms)

Papaya, papaya
(Trace a snowman pattern)

Ba-na-na-na-nana, ba-na-na-na-nana,
(Make a baby-rocking motion with arms and bounce)

Fruit salad, fruit salad
(Put hands on hips, shake hips side to side)



Central Plains Library System

Mark Your Calendar

December 3	Strategic Planning Done Right, Elwood (see page 12)
December 4	Library Improvement Grants Announced
December 17	Application Deadline for 2016 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program
December 25	Christmas Holiday—System Offices Closed

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January 1	New Year's Holiday—System Offices Closed
January 11-22	Basic Skills, Communication
January 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—System Offices Closed
January 25	CPLS Board Meeting, Loup City Public Library, 10:00 a.m.
January 25-Feb. 5	Basic Skills, Library Technology
January 28	Library Improvement Grant Applications due to Nebraska Library Commission
January 29	Summer Reading Program Workshop, Grand Island (see page 5)
February 1-6	CPLS Week of Weeding (see page 3)
February 8-19	Basic Skills, Customer Service
February 26	Big Talk from Small Libraries, Online Conference
Feb. 29 – Mar. 11	Basic Skills, Library Governance
March 21	Summer Reading Program Workshop, North Platte (see page 5)
March 21-April 15	Basic Skills, Organization of Materials
April 5-9	Public Library Association Conference, Denver
April 10-16	National Library Week, "Libraries Transform"
April 25-May 6	Basic Skills, Readers Advisory
May 2-8	Children's Book Week http://www.bookweekonline.com/about

The best things in life
are really free
Love, honor, a noble
mind...
And my local library.

~Beverly Tona, *Buffalo*
News, 9/20/2000



We're On the Web

libraries.ne.gov/cpls